

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Bob Lake, on January 25, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Jon Sonju, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson (D)
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)
Rep. Edward Hilbert (R)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)
Rep. Bill Nooney (R)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 315, 1/16/2007; HB 327,
1/18/2007; HB 257, 1/18/2007; HB
166, 1/12/2007

HEARING ON HB 166

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:03:03 Rep. Holly Raser (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HB
166, Extend biodiesel tax credit.

[EXHIBIT\(tah17a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah17a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:54 Brian Spangler, Montana Department of Environmental
Quality (DEQ)

00:11:52 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics
also speaking for Montana Farm Bureau Federation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:12:55 Rep. McAlpin

00:14:13 Rep. Nooney

00:17:14 Rep. Sonju

00:20:08 Rep. Jopek

00:21:52 Rep. Hamilton

00:22:25 Chairman Lake

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:55 Rep. Holly Raser

HEARING ON HB 327

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:23 Rep. Franke Wilmer (D), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB
327, Deferred property tax system for low income
disabled or elderly persons.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:39:24 Jackie Boyle, representing AARP

[EXHIBIT\(tah17a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah17a04\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:40:55 Ronda Wiggers, representing County Treasurers'
Association

00:49:43 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association
of Counties

Informational Testimony:

00:50:29 Dallas Reese, Montana Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:50:57 Rep. Erickson

00:52:00 Rep. Hilbert

00:54:52 Rep. Butcher

00:59:55 Dallas Reese

01:07:27 Rep. Ross

01:08:59 Dallas Reese

01:09:35 Rep. Jopek

01:10:55 Dallas Reese

01:12:19 Rep. Jopek

01:14:55 Rep. Erickson

01:19:00 Rep. Butcher

01:21:52 C. A. Daw, Chief Administrative Officer, Montana
Department of Revenue

Closing by Sponsor:

01:23:39 Rep. Franke Wilmer

HEARING ON HB 315

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:26:13 Rep. Roger Koopman (R), HD 70, opened the hearing on HB
315, Property tax reduction for excess budget surplus.

[EXHIBIT\(tah17a05\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:41:09 Rep. Cohenour
01:45:13 Rep. Jopek
01:51:40 Rep. Erickson
01:57:32 Rep. Sonju
01:58:10 Rep. McAlpin
01:58:33 Rep. Sonju
01:58:43 Rep. McAlpin
01:58:53 Chairman Lake
01:59:02 Rep. Hilbert
01:59:35 Rep. Butcher
02:07:10 Rep. Jopek
02:11:56 Rep. Cohenour
02:15:08 Rep. Bixby
02:17:27 Rep. Jopek
02:18:24 Jeff Martin, Legislative Services Division
02:18:50 Rep. Jopek
02:19:57 Rep. Grinde
02:21:24 Chairman Lake

Closing by Sponsor:

02:22:25 Rep. Roger Koopman
02:26:10 Break
02:43:45 Resume (Vice Chair Sonju assumed Chairman position)

HEARING ON HB 257

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:43:57 Rep. Bob Lake (R), HD 88, opened the hearing on HB 257,
Revise taxpayer bill of rights.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:46:07 Walter J. Kero, CPA, Missoula, representing the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants

EXHIBIT (tah17a06)

02:55:39 Joe Shevlin, CPA, Helena, speaking for Montana Society of CPAs

02:56:44 Dwaine Iverson, Shelby, Immediate Past President, Montana Society of CPAs

02:57:57 Holly Franz, representing Montana Society of CPAs

EXHIBIT (tah17a07)

03:03:39 John Bennion, representing Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony:

03:04:12 C. A. Daw

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:14:47 Rep. Erickson

03:18:21 Rep. McAlpin

03:19:21 Rep. Ross

03:21:18 Rep. McAlpin

03:22:44 Rep. Cohenour

03:26:52 Rep. Nooney

03:27:57 Rep. Butcher

03:33:06 Rep. Erickson

03:36:49 Rep. Cohenour

03:39:06 Rep. Sonju

Closing by Sponsor:

03:42:20 Rep. Bob Lake

Additional Exhibit:

EXHIBIT (tah17a08)

Pertaining to HB 109 heard on January 10, 2007

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:47 A.M.

REP. BOB LAKE, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

BL/dp

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tah17aad.pdf](#))